



# District Financing of School Health Centers or Health Services

School health services and health centers are financed through a variety of sources depending upon each school's and district's needs.

Sources include:

- public and private insurance carriers
- local, state, and federal grants
- philanthropic foundations
- in-kind contributions from schools,
- districts, and other partners.

Every school does things differently. Many choose to partner with community health providers that are able to bill insurance carriers or have grant funding and can provide services at little to no cost to the school. These providers are knowledgeable about health-related funding opportunities and can help you access critical dollars as you start or expand your health services.

Even schools with strong partners will likely want to provide some services that can't be funded by community health providers such as case management, mentoring, after school programs, and teacher consultation. School health centers will need to look for additional funds, including through traditional education funding streams.

Schools can use existing funds to support school health services such as using a portion of Title I-A or LEA Medi-Cal dollars to support school health services. Further, school districts can apply for competitive grants to supplement existing resources. Educators who support school health services should seek new funding and urge decision-makers to direct existing funds to school health services.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### ACADEMICS

- Title I-A Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers/Title IV-B ESEA
- After School Education and Safety Program
- High School Graduation Initiative
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act
- Foster Youth Services

### BROAD FOCUS

- Safe and Supportive Schools
- Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Program
- Promise Neighborhoods Initiative
- First 5

### HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH

- Local Educational Agency (LEA) Medi-Cal Billing
- Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA)
- Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program
- Grants for the Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems
- Early Mental Health Initiative
- Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse

### SAFETY

- School Community Violence Prevention Program
- School Safety and Violence Prevention Act Grants

## Stay up-to-date on school health center funding opportunities



Join the California School Health Centers Association and receive funding newsletters  
[www.schoolhealthcenters.org](http://www.schoolhealthcenters.org)

Join the National Assembly on School-Based Health Care and access funding links  
[www.nasbhc.org](http://www.nasbhc.org)

Center for Health and Health Care - Grant Alerts  
[www.healthinschools.org/News-Room/Grant-Alerts.aspx](http://www.healthinschools.org/News-Room/Grant-Alerts.aspx)

California Department of Education - Available Funding  
[www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/af/](http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/af/)

U.S. Department of Education - Grants and Forecast of Funding Opportunities  
[www2.ed.gov/fund/grants-apply.html](http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grants-apply.html)  
[www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html](http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html)

# Innovative Funding Solutions

## PARTNER WITH COMMUNITY PROVIDERS

Riverbank Unified School District engaged Golden Valley Health Center, a local community clinic interested in establishing a school health center. Through this collaboration, the school district has accessed new sources of state and federal funding to support a state of the art school health clinic that serves students as well as community members.

Santa Maria Joint Union High School District welcomed the non-profit Community Health Centers of the Central Coast onto Santa Maria High School's campus. This clinic bills Medi-Cal for primary health care services. Students now have a comprehensive health center supporting their success.

## WORK WITH COUNTY OFFICES OF EDUCATION

The Fresno County Office of Education seeks federal reimbursement for school-based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities. The County uses that money to pay for a mobile clinic and for a clinician to staff it. The mobile clinic provides needed medical care and immunizations to eight rural school districts.

## APPLY FOR GRANTS

With grants supporting school health centers in Oakland and West Contra Costa school districts, Kaiser Permanente's Community Benefit Program is just one example of funders committed to strengthening the health care safety net by increasing access to health services at school.

## FUNDRAISE IN THE COMMUNITY

Culver City Unified School District holds an annual gala to raise funds for the Culver City Youth Health Center. The district also works with local businesses to put on smaller fundraising events throughout the school year.

Piedmont Unified School District uses the community-driven "Giving Campaign for Piedmont Schools" to help pay for its Wellness Center, which offers mental health services and health education programs.

## For more information

If you would like more information about how school districts can find the funds to start or expand a school health center or health services, contact the California School Health Center Association's Technical Assistance Director Samantha Blackburn at 510-268-1038 or [sblackburn@schoolhealthcenters.org](mailto:sblackburn@schoolhealthcenters.org).

